

# MEMO

---

DATE: September 5, 2019

SUBJECT: Libya Weekly Update

---

Below is a summary of the latest top headlines of the week surrounding the news in Libya. Key highlights include:

- MEI reported countries who are supporting Haftar's offensive in Tripoli are ignoring their basic narrative on authoritarian stability. Haftar will continue to fuel instability regardless of his words, and actions have proven that.
- The Mitiga airport, the only operating airport in Libya's Capital, was shut down after missile attacks carried out by Haftar's LNA forces. These attacks occurred during civilian flight landings.
- The UN is calling for an end to the current conflict, and believes if one is not reached soon, this will expand into an all out civil war.
- The GNA remains confident in its abilities to protect Tripoli and defeat Haftar's offensive while making those who have committed war crimes pay.

Middle East Institute (9/3): [Libya's Hifter and the false narrative of authoritarian stability](#)

- Foreign states who have come out in support of General Haftar's offensive on Tripoli undermine their own nation's narrative on authoritarian stability.
- Supporting Haftar will continue to fuel instability in Libya, which is the very reason these states have rationalized supporting him in creating stability.
- Haftar has proven time and time again to create disarray in Libya, and nations should see this and disavow his false narratives of security and stability.

Libya Herald (9/3): [Mitiga airport remains closed, flights transferred to Misrata, LNA denies responsibility for its bombing](#)

- Tripoli's only functioning airport, Mitiga, was shut down again on Sunday after being hit by missiles on Saturday.
- This missile attack, carried out by Haftar's LNA forces, coincided with Libyan Airline flights landing, which resulted in injuries to civilians.
- According to USMIL, indiscriminate attacks, much like this one, that result in death or injury to civilians may be constituted as war crimes.

Reuters (9/1): [Artillery fire shuts airport in Libyan capital](#)

- The Mitiga Airport in Tripoli was hit by artillery fire, causing the airport to close. These attacks were carried out by Haftar's LNA forces.
- The UNSMIL stated that attacks like these are designed to create fear and chaos, disrupting operations at the only working airport in the capital.
- Cars were damaged, as well as passenger jets operated by Libyan Airlines as a result of these attacks.

Associated Press (9/4): [UN envoy urges key nations to call for end to Libya conflict](#)

- The UN envoy to Libya expressed launch of an intensive campaign for an international conference to call on General Haftar to end his offensive.
- The UN would like to hold a conference to respect the current UN arms embargo in Libya.
- Without the support of the Security Council and the international community, war is likely to continue in the region.
- UN Security Council President, Russia's Ambassador to the UN Vassily Nebenzia, stated that there is no military solution in Libya, and called for a cease-fire and political negotiations.

The Africa Report (9/3): [Libya: The Water War](#)

- Libyans in Tripoli continue to face cuts in water supply, resulting in taps running empty for several days.
- Due to degradation of infrastructure, which has been an issue since 2011, this problem continues to be exacerbated. The current conflict is further worsening this issue.
- Division amongst Libyans that have not been settled have also created this issue, resulting in poor management of the water supply.

France 24 (8/30): [UN chief fears 'full civil war' in Libya](#)

- Secretary General Antonio Guterres fears a full civil war in Libya unless there is an end to the conflict soon.
- There is a need for support of the international community in finding a political solution for Libya, which has seen 1,000 dead and 120,000 displaced since the start of General Haftar's offensive.

Middle East Monitor (9/2): [Al-Sarraj: 'We will defeat the assault on Tripoli and bring those responsible to Justice'](#)

- President Sarraj remains confident in the GNA's ability to protect Tripoli and defeat the incoming assault.
- He has also insisted in making the members of the LNA who have carried out war crimes pay for their injustices in Libya.

DISSEMINATED BY MERCURY PUBLIC AFFAIRS LLC, A REGISTERED FOREIGN AGENT, ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL ACCORD LIBYA, OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER. MORE INFORMATION IS ON FILE WITH THE DEPT. OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, DC.

###